

tained that a very fine alfalfa grows on the Island of Bahrein in the Persian Gulf and is making investigations.

--- --- Aug. 14. It is stated that exceptionally fine dates are grown at Bedre: says that he intended to secure the Mirhage date suckers this fall and transplant them to Bagdad, they could then have been re-dug and shipped in the spring. Promises to watch for other varieties of Maktum.

--- --- Aug. 19. Encloses report of Blockley, Cree & Co. re date fibre....Bale of date fibre despatched to Busrah en route for N. Y. by last steamer. Bale contains 174 lbs net. Of this 134 lbs. are washed, and 40 lbs. unwashed. Thought it advisable to put in some of the unwashed fibre in order that the difference caused by washing might clearly be seen and suggestions as to washing and handling sent. Loss in washing is 50 per cent and stuff is not yet clean. Large quantities could be obtained, best buying season being autumn and winter. First cost is extremely low, but expenses of collection, washing, pressing, freight, etc. would bring cost up to about $2\frac{1}{2}$ per lb. C & F, N. Y. In handling large quantity expenses might be reduced, but freight alone comes to $1\frac{1}{4}$ d per lb. and this is practically irreducible. If the article is found suitable can supply large quantities.

Recent Visitors Who Can Be of Assistance.

PALAWAN ISLAND. Mr. Thomas Hanley (Plant Introducer). Instructor of Agriculture in the Dwahia Penal Settlement, Island of Palawan. Thos. Cook & Son, London, Permanent address.